

a general plan, and thus bring the conflict to a speedy and satisfactory conclusion.

In selecting its representatives the United States has provided for a balance against becoming involved in any discussion of peace terms or political questions. There is no diplomatic representative with this mission. The business at this time of every member of Col. House's staff is war making and there can be no discussion of any matters not having to do directly with the prosecution of the war.

The men who compose the American mission are regarded by the Government as eminently fitted for the task. They are such as have been personally associated with the development of some phase of the vast mobilization of the nation's resources that has been going on since the United States entered the war.

Admiral Benson has personally supervised and directed the expansion of the navy. He has been personally associated with the mobilization of the nation's resources that has been going on since the United States entered the war.

Gen. Bliss has seen the American Army grow under his own hand. An Assistant Chief of Staff, he has helped to the task of building the great machine out of raw materials and raw recruits when Gen. Scott, then Chief, was sent to Russia after the Russian revolution.

The great army that is taking shape now throughout the country is almost as much the product of his concentrated effort as "Kitchener's mob" was of the Great Britain war chief.

Mr. McCormick carries information as to foreign shipments and the distribution of war tasks over American industries so that the staggering load can be carried without a falter.

Mr. Colby has been in charge of the transports and cargo boats, built, building or planned.

Dr. Taylor can tell all Food Administration. He has been in charge of the food of the army and the navy, and the food of the people.

Mr. Perkins can tell all the money of the government. He has been in charge of the money of the army and the navy, and the money of the people.

Mr. Clegg can tell all the military of the government. He has been in charge of the military of the army and the navy, and the military of the people.

Mr. Glavin can tell all the police of the government. He has been in charge of the police of the army and the navy, and the police of the people.

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Mr. Rosen can tell all the justice of the government. He has been in charge of the justice of the army and the navy, and the justice of the people.

Mr. Tracy can tell all the state of the government. He has been in charge of the state of the army and the navy, and the state of the people.

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Mr. Gurnea can tell all the commerce of the government. He has been in charge of the commerce of the army and the navy, and the commerce of the people.

Mr. Harbo can tell all the labor of the government. He has been in charge of the labor of the army and the navy, and the labor of the people.

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PREPARE TO PUNISH COAL LAW SLACKERS

U. S. District Attorneys Get Orders to Go Ahead.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 7.—An immediate investigation of charges that coal operators and dealers are not carrying out the orders of the Fuel Administration fixing prices and Government distribution will be started by the Department of Justice.

Orders have been prepared directing all Federal District Attorneys to study the Fuel Administration's regulations and to see that they are enforced. The directions will be a careful sifting of charges and prosecutions wherever it appears that the law has been violated.

Seizure of coal from trains by Ohio Mayor and city officials will be left to the Fuel Administration announced tonight, to the Ohio State Fuel Administrator for action. In a statement issued earlier in the day, the Fuel Administrator Garfield characterized this sort of confiscation as "wholesale robbery."

All transshippers of coal at New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Hampton Roads were ordered by the Fuel Administration to-day to make future shipments through the Tidewater and Potomac River Commission, the movement of coal cars. The exchange was formed last June, but a number of shippers had declined to join it.

AMERICAN TROOPS HEAVILY SHELLED

Yankee Guns Return German Fire and Pound Enemy Batteries.

By the Associated Press.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, Nov. 7.—The German artillery was very active all last night and to-day, shells of various calibers raining down around the American positions.

So thickly did they come at one time during the early hours this morning it was thought another barrage was about to be placed for a second raid on the American trenches. The Americans were ready for the Boche and hoping he would try another raid. But none developed.

The American artillery gave the Germans back shell for shell and added a few for good measure, pounding the enemy's positions and breaking up their formations.

Rain has continued for days and vast seas of mud now extend in every direction. The mud is so deep that it is impossible to move forward without the aid of tanks or other special equipment.

At some points the water running down the mountainous hills has flowed into the ditches, the occupants being forced to pump out repeatedly in order to dig out.

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INVADERS OF ITALY REACH THE LIVENZA

Cadorna May Resist There Till His Main Army Can Cross Piave.

VENETIAN PLAIN OVERBUN

Thousands More Captured as Teutons Advance 10 to 12 Miles in a Day.

LONDON, Nov. 7.—Austro-German troops in northern Italy advanced from ten to twelve miles to-day, slowly pushing the Italians back upon the small Livenza River, where it is presumed Gen. Cadorna intends to fight or already has fought a delaying action pending his expected further retirement to the Piave. Berlin officially announced tonight the arrival of Field Marshal von Mackensen's armies at the Livenza and said several thousand prisoners were taken in the fighting on the Venetian plains.

An earlier announcement from Berlin to-day had said the Germans were continuing their pursuit. About the same time, Rome announced withdrawal from the Tagliamento to the Livenza, saying the retreat was orderly and marked by a succession of rear-guard actions. Both reports indicate that the Italian movement is being conducted according to approved military principles and there is no indication of any stampede such as marked the early days of the Austro-German advance.

The Livenza is a small stream, with a tortuous course, its average distance from the Tagliamento varying from ten to fifteen miles. It is held to be highly improbable that the Italians would attempt to make a decisive stand here, the lesson of the Battle of the Marne being cited by military critics as an instance of the futility of halting a retreat too soon.

Some Italian forces already have reached the Piave, according to the Associated Press correspondent with the front at the front who reports that the heavy gun broke through a bridge while crossing the stream.

Probable Scene of Stand.

Gen. Cadorna to-day issued an order creating a military zone all the territory to the north and east of the Piave and Mincio rivers. This would seem to indicate that he has elected to make his great stand upon the famous quadrilateral of Mantua, Verona, Peschiera, and Lugano, as has been predicted for years.

The Po empties into the Adriatic at Venice. The Mincio is a tributary, having its origin in the Lake Garda region. Thus Venice in addition to Mantua, Verona and several other cities of considerable size and importance, are included in the new war area.

There is every reason to believe that the forces being sent or already sent to the Livenza are of considerable size and that they are equipped with ample field and heavy artillery. The response of France to the Italian appeal is said to have been almost instantaneous, troop trains being sent toward the Alps within a short period after the crisis was announced.

A further investigation of the German advance is being conducted along the Piave. It is believed that the German advance is being conducted along the Piave. It is believed that the German advance is being conducted along the Piave.

The fact that Berlin does not report the capture of Italian guns and the absence of demoralization in Cadorna's ranks is hailed as a most reassuring sign. The retreat from the Tagliamento, especially the capture of the Piave, is hailed as a most reassuring sign.

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Stages in the Italian Army Retirement

From the Tagliamento River line (No. 1) to which they retreated as the first step in the great Austro-German drive against Italy, Gen. Cadorna's forces retreated to the Livenza (No. 2), where they already are in contact with the foe. It has been expected that the next line of defense will be the Piave (No. 3), and

that the halt at the Livenza was little more than a rear guard action to harass Mackensen's troops and give the Italians time. Military critics have agreed, however, that the ultimate stand may have to be far to the rear, along the black line marked (No. 4). Shaded portions of the map show the territory which Gen. Cadorna yesterday decreed to constitute a war zone.

destroying the enemy. The British batteries have been withdrawn intact after a terrific experience. They lost three men, but the heavy guns were saved. One artillery sergeant fell off a big gun, the wheels of which passed over him, killing him.

On the effectiveness with which a reconcentration can be carried out on the newly chosen Italian front depends the issue in the military movement now in progress. This reconcentration is developing with reasonable promptness, considering the magnitude of the reorganization necessary after the recent retreat and the enemy's pressure, now extending along fifteen miles of the Tagliamento.

In military circles it is felt that something more is needed than assurance from Italy's allies as time presses for setting actual reinforcements of men, munitions and the like. The feeling is that this is an emergency which should stir the Allies to real action in sending immediate help, as the enemy's pressure is now extending along fifteen miles of the Tagliamento.

Gen. Maurice laid special emphasis upon the fact that the allied pressure has been accepted too literally. German reports upon affairs in Italy, he said, practically all the reports contain an element of exaggeration. For instance, he asserted that the Germans have not nearly 300,000 troops fighting with the Austrians nor have they captured as many prisoners as they continually claim.

"Certainly it is true," he added, "that the Austro-Germans are going to meet a terrific resistance when they advance into the Venetian plain, but they will not meet it until they have thrown their whole strength into checking the tide. Meantime, it is Germany's intention to gain all she can, including twenty-one officers. British losses were very heavy, but they are not yet known."

Berlin announces that German troops are holding the line on the east of Paschedende village and asserts that the British are forcing the Germans to retreat. It is believed here that the battering at Boulers, with the freeing of the coast from submarine bases as the ultimate objective, may have been broken.

The British spent to-day organizing their newly captured positions at Paschedende and the high ground in the neighborhood. Boulers being only five miles away. It is expected that the British will be in a position to attack the Germans at any time.

Under the fire of British guns as soon as these are in position. In spite of the great importance the enemy attached to Paschedende there has been no attempt to retake it. Prisoners taken in yesterday's fighting are reported as 400, including twenty-one officers. British losses were very heavy, but they are not yet known."

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